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Letter dated 20 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement made on 13 April 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union concerning the announcement of a summit meeting between the two Koreas (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 20 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the announcement of a summit meeting between the two Koreas, issued on 13 April 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the simultaneous announcement of a summit meeting between President Kim Dae-jung and National Defence Commission Chairman Kim Jong Il.

As a long-standing advocate of direct dialogue between the two Koreas, the European Union considers that such a summit would be a significant and historic event with considerable potential for easing tensions on the Peninsula.

The European Union reaffirms its support for the engagement policy and for the proposals relating to peace and reunification in the Korean Peninsula made in Berlin on 9 March by President Kim Dae-jung.

The European Union hopes that the summit will become a milestone in the process towards a lasting reconciliation on the Peninsula as well as towards enhancing regional stability.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.